

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented). A method for detecting a *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* (Map) infection in an animal, the method comprising the steps of:

(A) providing a biological sample from the animal and extracting nucleic acids from the sample; and

(B) subjecting the extracted nucleic acids to polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using primers SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the presence of an amplification product specific for *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* in the polymerase chain reaction mixture indicates that the animal is infected with *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis*.

2. (Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein the *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* infection is a subclinical infection.

3. (Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the animal is a cow.

4. (Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the biological sample is blood.

5. (Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the biological sample is milk.

Claims 6-20 (Canceled).